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Test and Evaluation

TEST PILOT SCHOOL (PA)

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This instruction implements AFD 99-1, *Test and Evaluation Policy*. It defines authority for the US Air Force Test Pilot School (TPS). It outlines the supervision, operation, and administration of the school's mission, course instruction, eligibility requirements, application procedures, and selection process. This instruction also addresses English language requirements for allied students, Flying Evaluation Board (FEB) procedures, and Faculty Board procedures. The reporting requirements in this instruction are exempt from licensing according to paragraphs 2.11.5, 2.11.10, and 2.11.12 of AFI 37-124, The Information Collections and Reports (ICR) Management Program; Controlling Internal, Public, and Interagency Air Force Information collections. Submit recommended changes via AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, to HQ AFMC/DOP with an information copy to HQ USAF/TEP.

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F036 AFPC M, *Officer Utilization Records System*, and F036 AFMC A, *Personnel Management Information System for Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) Commanders*, apply.

These instructions apply to HQ Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) and HQ Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) which support the TPS and its mission.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This revision incorporates changes in office symbols and Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC); adds a minimum grade point average (GPA) requirement ([table 1.](#)); expands the number of acceptable AFSCs for the experience requirement for experimental flight test engineers (Table 1); clarifies eligibility of Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) graduates (paragraph [1.2.](#)); clarifies administrative responsibilities (paragraph [2.](#)); eliminates requirement for pilots and navigators to submit AF Form 1042 (paragraph [3.1.](#)); adds requirement for copy of Flying History Report from the Air Force Operations Resource Management System (AFORMS) with applications from pilots and navigators (paragraph 3.1); revises procedures for verifying qualification for flying duty for experimental flight test engineers (paragraph 3.1); clarifies

notification procedures to major commands on officer selection (paragraph 4.1.); adds minimum score on Oral Proficiency Interview for foreign students (paragraph 5.4.1.); adds requirement for Defense Language Aptitude Board (DLAB) test for French TPS volunteers (paragraph 9.); removes AF Forms 1711 and 1712 from attachments; and adds ADSC Statement of Agreement to attachments.

1. US Air Force TPS Mission. The authority to establish and maintain the Air Force Test Pilot School can be found in Title 10, United States Code, Section 8013. The TPS educates and trains test pilots, navigators, and engineers to test and evaluate aerospace vehicles and their systems. These tests yield technical information on the suitability and performance of vehicles, systems, and subsystems, and determine: flight characteristics; performance; stability and control; mission capability; and mission suitability. TPS is the center of expertise for Air Force flight test theory and techniques and helps Air Force agencies update military specifications and flight test standards. TPS gives school and flight test center professionals the opportunity to exchange ideas and information.

1.1. Courses of Instruction: The school is a 48-week course of instruction. The curriculum consists of three closely related courses: experimental test pilot; experimental test navigator; and experimental flight test engineer. Together, these courses train selected personnel in the latest methods of testing and evaluating aerospace vehicles and related systems. (See AFCAT 36-2223 for description of curriculum.)

1.2. TPS Eligibility Requirements:

1.2.1. All applicants must meet eligibility requirements (except experience) before requesting admission (see [table 1.](#)).

1.2.2. Pilot and navigator applicants must have a current flying Class II physical on file. They can apply before they meet the minimum flying hour requirements if they will have the minimum flying time before the beginning of class.

1.2.3. Experimental flight test engineer applicants must have a minimum of two years experience in one of the following Air Force specialty codes: 13XX, 14NX, 21AX, 21MX, 33SX, 61SX, 62EX, or 63AX. Engineer applicants must also be able to pass an Annual Flying Class III physical examination.

1.2.4. Air Force civilian personnel and nonrated officers may apply for the Experimental Flight Test Engineer Course.

1.2.5. International students require a SECRET clearance. SAF/IAD maintains the Disclosure Delegation Letter (DDL).

1.2.6. Air Force Institute of Technology graduates serving in an AFIT Directed Duty Assignment (DDA) may apply for TPS if they meet all of the following criteria:

1.2.6.1. One year in an advanced academic degree (AAD) position prior to TPS class start date.

1.2.6.2. Release by member's current commander through the Commander's Involvement Program (CIP) with MAJCOM concurrence. Every possible consideration should be granted to the member in their last year of eligibility.

1.2.7. AFIT students may apply for TPS if they meet all of the following criteria:

1.2.7.1. Eligibility requirements stated in [table 1](#).

1.2.7.2. AFIT graduation date must align closely with TPS class start date. Sixty days will be the benchmark for defining close alignment. TPS classes start in July and the following January after each TPS board.

1.2.7.3. Release by member's DDA follow-on commander through the CIP with MAJCOM concurrence. Every possible consideration should be granted the member in their last year of eligibility.

1.2.8. AFIT/USAF Academy faculty-prep students may compete only if released by the owner of the AAD faculty billet for which they were sponsored.

1.2.9. All officers released to TPS from their AAD program prior to completion must (if selected) be assigned to the appropriate AAD level and code for their degree to fulfill their AFIT DDA upon completion of TPS.

Table 1. Eligibility Requirements for Courses.

Course	TAFCS (at class entry)	Education	Experience (at class entry) (see note)	Physical Qualification	Clearance
Experimental Test Pilot	January Class: Fewer than 10 years	BS in Engineering, Mathematics, or Physics	On extended active duty (EAD) and not in suspended flying status	Annual Flying Class II	Secret
Experimental Test Navigator	July Class: Fewer than 10 years and 3 months	(Some physical science degrees will be considered on a case-by-case basis) Minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale	Pilots must have served at least 18 months as aircraft commander in a major weapon system Pilots and multi-engine navigators must have at least 1000 hours total time, fighter navigators 500 hours total time (excluding student time and unmanned aerial vehicle controller time).		

Course	TAFCS (at class entry)	Education	Experience (at class entry) (see note)	Physical Qualification	Clearance
Experimental Flight Test Engineer	Fewer than 8 years	Degree requirements, same as above except: Minimum GPA of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale	On EAD with a minimum of 2 years experience in one of the fol- lowing AFSCs: 13XX, 14NX, 21AX, 21MX, 33SX, 61SX, 62EX, or 63AX	Annual Flying Class III	Secret

NOTE: For the purposes of TPS eligibility, a multiengine aircraft is an aircraft with two or more engines (non-centerline thrust) and a maximum operating weight greater than 50,000 pounds. U-2/TR-1 aircraft experience is acceptable in the multiengine category.

1.3. Joint AFIT and TPS Program. Air Force officers eligible for TPS can volunteer for a joint AFIT and TPS program leading to a Master of Science (MS) in Aeronautical or Electrical Engineering. The selected officers enter AFIT in September for a special program, followed by entering the regular US Air Force TPS curriculum in January, 15 months later. AFIT graduate courses stress aircraft and system analysis, design, and development. In TPS, the student develops a comprehensive test program using test aircraft and facilities to gather essential data for a thesis.

1.4. Bars to Eligibility:

1.4.1. Officers eliminated from any Air Force or military formal flying training program in their present rated category are ineligible for TPS.

1.4.2. Navigators eliminated from US Air Force Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT) and *engineers* eliminated from SUPT or Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training (SUNT) are eligible, unless they left these programs by self-initiated elimination (SIE).

1.4.3. Applicants who did not finish any US Government-funded, full-time education or training program due to substandard performance or SIE (except as noted above). The US Air Force TPS or AFPC can eliminate any candidate who shows indications of substandard performance after becoming a TPS candidate, but before starting training.

2. Administrative Responsibilities:

2.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOT3:

2.1.1. Maintains applications.

2.1.2. Determines eligibility (see [table 1.](#)).

2.1.3. Convenes a student selection board annually to select US Air Force officers and US Air Force civilian employees. A HQ AFPC colonel chairs the selection board. Members include the TPS Commandant (or his representative) and at least three TPS graduates (majors or lieutenant colonels).

2.1.4. Assigns board-selected Air Force pilots, navigators, and engineers to TPS.

2.1.5. Coordinates special training for TPS graduates en route to their next assignment.

2.2. HQ AFMC/CC:

2.2.1. Appoints the TPS Commandant. (This authority may be delegated to the Commander, Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC), Edwards AFB CA.)

2.2.2. Reviews the TPS faculty board or Flying Evaluation Board (FEB) proceedings of students recommended for elimination.

2.3. HQ AFMC/DO:

2.3.1. Ensures TPS curriculum activities are according to HQ USAF policies and instructions.

2.3.2. Appoints an AFMC representative to advise the TPS selection board.

2.3.3. Approves student selections from annual TPS selection board.

2.3.4. Requests and validates field requirements for TPS graduates. Provides validated requirements to the TPS commandant, enabling graduating classes to provide their preferences for the available assignments.

2.3.5. Hosts video teleconferences to finalize assignments for the graduating classes. Students will be notified of their new positions not later than 90 days prior to graduation.

2.4. AFFTC/CC:

2.4.1. Supervises the TPS according to HQ USAF policies and this AFI.

2.4.2. Directs curriculum updates to include the latest flight test philosophy and methods.

2.4.3. Reviews and approves the TPS curriculum after every triennial curriculum review.

2.4.4. Reviews each report of faculty board proceedings and approves or disapproves faculty board findings and recommendations according to AFCAT 36-2223, *USAF Formal Schools*.

2.4.5. Convenes FEBs according to AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges*.

2.4.6. Is the AFFTC FEB approving authority.

2.4.7. Budgets and funds the tuition costs of US Air Force students attending foreign test pilot schools and the costs of foreign students from participating countries attending the USAF TPS.

2.5. TPS Commandant:

2.5.1. Operates the TPS according to HQ USAF policies and this AFI.

2.5.2. Oversees all flying training, academic instruction, budgeting, and curriculum administration.

2.5.3. Conducts a triennial curriculum review and submits it to AFFTC/CC for approval.

2.5.4. May waive curriculum requirements based upon resource availability or student status.

2.5.5. Reviews the educational and flying backgrounds of prospective foreign students to determine their suitability. Sends the recommendations to HQ AFMC/DO, AFSAT/TO, and SAF/IAX at least 12 months before the proposed class entry date.

2.5.6. Advises students of their progress.

- 2.5.7. Maintains records of enrollment and achievement for all students.
- 2.5.8. Issues a diploma to each graduate.
- 2.5.9. Writes each US Air Force and international military officer an Education or Training Report. Writes each US Navy and US Marine officer a Fitness Report. Adds the course to the professional specialty course list for each US Air Force graduate.
- 2.5.10. Suspends students from training when they do not meet training standards, become medically unqualified, or request elimination.
- 2.5.11. Convenes a faculty board (per AFI 36-2201, *Developing, Managing, and Conducting Training*) or FEB (per AFI 11-402).
- 2.5.12. Cancels an individual's student status if the faculty board or FEB recommendation to eliminate the student is approved.

3. Application Procedures:

3.1. Preparing Applications:

- 3.1.1. All applicants prepare AF Form 1711, **USAF Test Pilot School Application** (available as PerForm Pro or FormFlow file). The narrative section of AF Form 1711 will be prepared in bullet format with a 12 pitch font. The following must be attached:
 - 3.1.1.1. Certified transcript of all college credits.
 - 3.1.1.2. A resume of flying experience, if applicable (see [attachment 2](#) format).
- 3.1.2. US Air Force pilot and navigator applicants also:
 - 3.1.2.1. Attach a certified true copy of AF Form 942, **Record of Evaluation**.
 - 3.1.2.2. Attach copies of all AF Forms 8, **Certificate of Aircrew Qualification**, from their Flight Evaluation Folders.
 - 3.1.2.3. Attach a copy of Flying History Report from the Air Force Operations Resource Management System. This report can be obtained from the local Host Operations System Management (HOSM) office.
 - 3.1.2.4. A summary of operational flying experience in the narrative section of AF Form 1711 (limited to space provided), including:
 - 3.1.2.4.1. Upgrade dates to aircraft commander, instructor, and evaluator.
 - 3.1.2.4.2. Specialty qualifications.
 - 3.1.2.4.3. Any other significant related military flying experience and activities.
 - 3.1.2.4.4. Professional accomplishments and honors.
 - 3.1.2.4.5. Any engineering-related activities.
 - 3.1.2.4.6. Reason(s) the applicant wants to be a test pilot or test navigator.
- 3.1.3. Experimental flight test engineer applicants also include a narrative on AF Form 1711 (limited to space provided) that summarizes:
 - 3.1.3.1. Technical experience.

- 3.1.3.2. Test experience.
- 3.1.3.3. Operational experience.
- 3.1.3.4. Any engineering-related activities.
- 3.1.3.5. Professional accomplishments and honors.
- 3.1.3.6. Their career goals in flight testing.
- 3.1.4. Civilian applicants also:
 - 3.1.4.1. Provide copies of all performance evaluations.
 - 3.1.4.2. Include a narrative on AF Form 1711 (limited to space provided) that summarizes:
 - 3.1.4.2.1. Technical experience.
 - 3.1.4.2.2. Test experience.
 - 3.1.4.2.3. Any engineering-related activities.
 - 3.1.4.2.4. Professional accomplishments and honors.
 - 3.1.4.2.5. Their career goals in flight testing.
- 3.1.5. Experimental flight test engineer and civilian applicants are required to pass a flying Class III physical within the period two years prior to the TPS selection board. Any medical conditions requiring a waiver will be adjudicated and processed by 95 Med Gp/SGP (Flight Surgeon's office) prior to the TPS selection board. Submit a copy of the most recent SF 88, **Report of Medical Examination**, and AF Form 1042, **Medical Recommendations for Flying or Special Operational Duty**, along with the application. If a waiver is requested, copies of both the SF 88 and the individual's SF 93, **Report of Medical History**, must be submitted along with supporting documentation (as applicable) to 95 Med Gp/SGP at Edwards AFB.

3.2. AF Form 1712, Special Flying Program Recommendation (available as PerForm Pro or FormFlow file).

- 3.2.1. All applicants (except those from allied nations) obtain at least one completed AF Form 1712 from their immediate supervisor. Applicants may have two additional AF Forms 1712 prepared by officers who know the applicant's flying and technical abilities firsthand (maximum of three AF Forms 1712 may be submitted). AF Form 1712 will be prepared in bullet format with a 12 pitch font.
- 3.2.2. Pilot and navigator applicants must have their immediate supervisor complete this form. The supervisor should know the applicant's flying ability, technical ability, and professional competence firsthand. In filling out the form, do not exceed the limits of space provided for remarks, nor attach documents (such as separate letters of recommendation). If the applicant's current supervisor does not know the applicant's flying ability firsthand, an officer who supervised the applicant in a rated position during the previous three years can give one of the two additional recommendations. However, no more than three recommendations may be submitted for each applicant. These recommendations must minimally contain an evaluation of the officer's:
 - 3.2.2.1. Piloting or navigation skill.
 - 3.2.2.2. Crew member performance.

3.2.2.3. Experience.

3.2.2.4. Technical competence.

3.2.2.5. Energy and determination in flying, including ability and willingness to do precision flying according to predetermined flight plans.

3.2.2.6. Judgment, patience, adaptability, and responsibility.

3.2.2.7. Ability to analyze problems.

3.2.2.8. Ability to work and blend in a group.

3.2.2.9. Ability to be proactive and take initiative.

3.2.2.10. Interest in research or experimental test work.

3.2.2.11. Ability, after further training, to decide issues of development, testing, and suitability for future Air Force aerospace systems.

3.2.3. Experimental flight test engineer applicants must have their military supervisor fill out the form. The military supervisor must know the applicant's technical ability and professional competence firsthand. The recommendation should include information on the applicant's:

3.2.3.1. Experience and professional competence.

3.2.3.2. Energy, determination, and effectiveness in assigned duties.

3.2.3.3. Judgment, patience, adaptability, and responsibility.

3.2.3.4. Ability to analyze problems.

3.2.3.5. Ability to work and blend in a group.

3.2.3.6. Ability to be proactive and take initiative.

3.2.3.7. Interest in research or experimental test work.

3.2.3.8. Ability, after further training, to decide issues of development, testing, and suitability for future Air Force aerospace systems.

3.2.4. Recommending officers submit AF Form 1712 by separate correspondence directly to Special Flying Programs Section, HQ AFPC/DPAOT3, 550 C Street West, Suite 31, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4733. A maximum of three recommendations (immediate supervisor plus two others) remain in the applicant's folder for selection board consideration.

3.2.5. Because applicants from allied nations are selected to attend USAF TPS via a competitive process within their own government, they do not require an AF Form 1712.

3.3. Submitting AF Form 1711:

3.3.1. Applicants submit AF Form 1711 to Special Flying Programs Section, HQ AFPC/DPAOT3, 550 C Street West, Suite 31, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4733.

3.3.2. HQ AFPC/DPAOT3 must have the entire application package no later than 45 days before the board convenes. The board does not consider late applications but holds them for future boards, if the officer is still eligible. The selection board consists of representatives from HQ AFMC, HQ AFPC, TPS, and using organizations. The selection board:

3.3.2.1. Chooses students based on their academic performance, technical and flying credentials, recommendations, and career performance.

3.3.2.2. Meets at HQ AFPC each year (usually in January) to select primary and alternate candidates for the next two TPS classes.

3.3.2.3. Selects students for the joint AFIT and US Air Force TPS program in aeronautical or electrical engineering, US Air Force students for Navy TPS, and students for exchange with foreign test pilot schools.

3.3.3. Applicants must keep their applications up to date. They must send annual update information to the TPS selection board at least 45 days before the board convenes. The applicant submits update information directly to HQ AFPC/DPAOT3. The yearly update includes:

3.3.3.1. New AF Form 1711.

3.3.3.2. New AF Form 1712 from the immediate supervisor.

3.3.3.3. New certified copy of AF Form 942.

3.3.3.4. Certified copies of all AF Forms 8 since the last update (for pilot and navigator applicants).

3.3.3.5. College transcripts or grade reports for any other education acquired.

3.3.4. Before sending applications to the board, HQ AFPC determines TPS availability for all applicants. After HQ AFPC releases the applications to the board, the selection board considers an applicant for TPS until:

3.3.4.1. The board selects the applicant.

3.3.4.2. The applicant voluntarily withdraws the application.

3.3.4.3. The applicant exceeds the maximum Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) specified in Table 1.

3.3.4.4. The applicant does not update the application within the 10 months preceding the TPS selection board date.

NOTE: AFPC/DPAOT3 retains ineligible applications for 1 year and then destroys according to AFMAN 37-139, Records Disposition Schedule.

3.3.5. Applicants can forward questions about their applications to HQ AFPC/DPAOT3 or the TPS application officer, US Air Force Test Pilot School, Student Training Division, USAFTPS/ED, 220 South Wolfe Avenue, Edwards AFB CA 93524-6485.

3.4. Requests for Waivers: Requests for waivers to the eligibility requirements listed in Table 1 will be submitted as part of the application package. HQ AFMC/DO is the approval authority for such waivers. The request for waiver will be written in the form of a memo addressed to HQ AFMC/DO. The memo will state the eligibility requirement that requires a waiver and the rationale for requesting the waiver. Total flight time and aircraft commander time requirements will usually not be waived.

4. Assigning Officers to the US Air Force TPS:

4.1. Notification to Major Commands (MAJCOM). HQ AFPC tells MAJCOMs which officers are selected for training at least 120 days before the class starts. The MAJCOMs issue orders reas-

signing selected officers to AFFTC according to AFI 33-328, *Administrative Orders* (PA) and AFCAT 36-2223. The organization issuing orders will counsel the selected officers on the active duty service commitment (ADSC) associated with selection to TPS per AFI 36-2107 and will have the individual sign an ADSC Statement of Agreement (see example in Attachment 3). Since TPS is a voluntary school, a Seven Day Option is not required for individuals who are selected but choose not to accept the assignment. For information on the AFIT class start date, contact Admissions Directorate, AFIT/RR 2950 P Street, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-7765.

4.2. Flight Training Before Reporting. Pilot candidates should complete at least 20 hours of flight during the 90-day period immediately before they start TPS. MAJCOMs provide this flight experience to candidates using available resources.

4.2.1. Fixed-wing Pilot Candidates. Fixed-wing pilots who have never been qualified in the T-38 aircraft will complete Jet Currency D Track training prior to reporting to TPS. Course dates for the Jet Currency D Track training will be scheduled to minimize the time between completion of training and start of TPS class (no longer than 90 days). TPS will identify and request annual Jet Currency D Track training requirements.

4.2.2. Helicopter Pilot Candidates. These candidates will receive their training at the US Navy Test Pilot School (USNTPS) and must be qualified in both rotary-wing and fixed-wing aircraft when they report for training. They must complete at least 20 hours of flight in rotary-wing aircraft during the 90 days before reporting to the USNTPS. This applies to all students except those reporting to USNTPS from SUPT fixed-wing transition training. MAJCOMs provide this flight experience to candidates using available resources.

4.2.3. Helicopter pilot candidates who are not qualified in fixed-wing aircraft will complete SUPT fixed-wing transition training prior to reporting to USNTPS. Course dates for the SUPT fixed-wing transition training will be scheduled to minimize the time between completion of transition training and start of USNTPS class.

4.3. Foreign TPS Assignment. Officers who will attend foreign TPS receive an additional 20 days temporary duty (TDY) at Edwards AFB CA during the 60 days before they leave for permanent change of station. US Air Force TPS funds this TDY.

4.4. Physiological Training. All candidates must report for the start of their TPS class with current physiological training which will not expire before completion of TPS training.

4.5. Billeting at USAF TPS. All students are required to live on base.

5. Training Non-US Air Force Individuals:

5.1. Other US Service Branches. USNTPS selects US Navy and US Marine Corps personnel to attend the US Air Force TPS. The applicant's Service sends the information to USAFTPS/ED.

5.2. Civilians. AFMC/DOP can grant a limited number of flight test engineer training positions in the TPS to US Air Force civilians, Federal agencies, and allied nations. Applicants who are not US Air Force officers prepare applications according to paragraph 4 of this instruction, and submit them as described below.

5.2.1. US Air Force Civilian Applicants. The local organizational commander and the civilian personnel office (CPO) process the application. The application must explain why the position the applicant will hold after graduation requires a TPS graduate. Officials providing recommenda-

tions for candidates must submit AF Form 1712, by separate correspondence, directly to HQ AFPC/DPAOT3. Start the application process at least 18 months before the training date.

5.2.1.1. The local CPO forwards all applications that meet eligibility requirements of Table 1 to the applicant's MAJCOM CPO. After reviewing each application to determine its validity, MAJCOM CPOs forward approved applications to HQ AFPC/DPAOT3.

5.2.1.2. The AFPC selection board reviews civilian applications using the same standards as they do for military engineer applicants. They select the best qualified engineers. HQ AFPC notifies candidates and their servicing CPOs of their selection.

5.2.1.3. The student's sponsoring organization funds the individual's civilian pay and all other associated costs.

5.2.1.4. HQ AFPC/DPAOT3 returns applications of civilians that they do not select. The applicant can reapply if he or she still meets all eligibility requirements.

5.2.2. Other Federal Agency Applicants. Applications from other Federal agencies must be processed through the local organizational executive-level supervisor. Submit these applications directly to AFMC/DOP. AFMC/DOP reviews the application, and sends copies to the US Air Force TPS to determine the applicant's suitability for TPS training. The student's sponsoring organization must pay all costs associated with this training.

5.2.3. Applicants From Allied Nations . Applicants should apply at least 18 months before the desired start date of training. This period allows time to review applications, allocate training slots, and schedule necessary English language courses. Sponsoring countries must translate applications into English before submitting them. Send applications to AFSAT/TO 315 J Street West, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4354. As soon as possible after receipt of the applications, AFSAT will provide the educational and flying backgrounds of the prospective foreign students to the TPS for screening.

5.3. Funding for Non-US Air Force Students. Invitational travel orders for international students are to include TDY for field trips that are part of the curriculum. The following guidelines determine funding:

5.3.1. Other US Services. Nonreimbursable (reciprocal agreements apply).

5.3.2. Other US Agencies. Fully reimbursable to include military pay at standard rates.

5.3.3. Allied Nations. Course costs for allied students are reimbursable at four different rates depending on the eligibility of the country.

5.3.3.1. Foreign Military Sales (FMS). Fully reimbursable to include military pay at advanced rates.

5.3.3.2. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Same as FMS except that the asset use charge and any indirect costs are excluded.

5.3.3.3. International Military Education Training (IMET). Funded as a grant on an incremental cost basis. Excludes military pay, military retirement, unfunded civilian retirement, and the asset use charge.

5.3.3.4. FMS Incremental. Same as IMET, but includes military pay charges. Provided for IMET-eligible countries, but costs are paid by the country and not through grant aid.

5.4. English Language Requirements for Students From Allied Nations:

5.4.1. All TPS students must be able to use the English language effectively. Candidates whose primary language is English are exempt from the requirements of paragraph 5.4 to screen, test, and train.

5.4.1.1. All students must obtain a rating of 2+/2+ or better on the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI).

5.4.1.2. Non-English speaking foreign countries must test students for English language skills before TPS selects them, unless the Secretary of Defense grants an exemption from in-country testing.

5.4.1.3. The Defense Language Institute English Language Center (DLIELC) English Comprehension Level (ECL) and OPI will be used to screen applicants.

5.4.1.4. Administer ECL testing according to DLIELC Instruction 1025.7, *Planning and Programming Security Assistance English Language Training*, February 23, 1998, and DLIELC Instruction 1025.15, *English Comprehension Level (ECL) Test Guidelines*, August 30, 1998. Copies are available from DLIELC, Lackland AFB TX 78236-5259.

5.4.2. The sponsoring country ensures that:

5.4.2.1. Any candidate selected for TPS who achieves less than 85 ECL must attend English language training at DLIELC according to the duration tables in DLIELC Instruction 1025.7.

5.4.2.2. Any student who achieves 85 ECL or above and 2+/2+ or better on the OPI attends 9 weeks of specialized English aviation language training at DLIELC.

5.4.3. DLIELC re-examines incoming students to confirm their in-country ECL score. If a student qualifies with an 85 ECL and a 2+/2+ on the OPI, DLIELC puts that student into the specialized aviation course.

5.4.4. The Commandant, US Air Force TPS, has exclusive authority to waive language training. To receive a waiver, the applicant's country must submit the request with the original TPS application, including a justification for such waiver.

5.5. Billeting at USAF TPS for Non-US Air Force Individuals. All students, including civilians and international students, are required to live on base.

6. TPS Graduation Awards. The TPS Commandant:

6.1. Presents the Liethen-Tittle Award to the experimental test pilot graduate with the best overall record for outstanding performance and academic excellence.

6.2. Presents the R.L. Jones Award to the outstanding experimental test navigator or experimental flight test engineer graduate with the best overall record for outstanding performance and academic excellence.

6.3. Designates distinguished graduates for each class.

7. Assigning Graduates. Air Force TPS graduates represent a highly trained, critical resource. A strong personnel management program controls their use as graduates of a specialized flying school.

7.1. Graduates receive a five year commitment to the Air Force according to AFI 36-2107, *Active Duty Service Commitments*, with a DDA to a flight test vacancy as an active test flyer in developmental test and evaluation, or another position that uses the training.

7.2. Air Force requirements determine future assignments after the initial directed duty assignment.

7.3. Graduates of the AFIT/TPS program are required to work in an AAD coded position for three years within the next six years after graduation.

7.4. Air Force civilians assume the positions for which they received TPS training.

8. US Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) Program. The Air Force sends a limited number of fixed-wing, and all rotary-wing aircraft test pilot students, to the USNTPS, NAS Patuxent River, MD. The TPS selection board picks students from the pool of applicants for Air Force TPS to fill the Air Force quotas at this school. Eligibility requirements are the same as for Air Force TPS.

8.1. The USNTPS syllabus includes fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft. A selected student without fixed-wing aircraft experience attends SUPT fixed-wing conversion training before attending USNTPS.

8.2. Each Air Force student attending the USNTPS must complete an accredited water survival course. Each student must pass a US Navy Class B swimmers' course while at the USNTPS. The Navy swimmers' course requires the applicant to swim 200 yards, using four types of strokes, and to swim 20 yards underwater.

9. Foreign TPS. Opportunities periodically occur allowing students to take their test training at the Empire TPS in the United Kingdom or the French TPS (EPNER) in Istres, France. Applicants volunteering for foreign TPS should include that information on their applications. They should also specify whether or not they speak French. All volunteers for French TPS should take the Defense Language Aptitude Board (DLAB) test and submit results with the TPS application package. If selected, French TPS candidates will attend and pass applicable French language training requirements.

10. Failure To Meet School Standards:

10.1. Process Overview. Because the TPS maintains stringent eligibility requirements and uses a thorough selection process, most students successfully complete the training. When a student fails, applicable boards are convened, except when a rated student requests a flying evaluation board (FEB) waiver under AFI 11-402. Either way, the school suspends the student from further training.

10.2. TPS Board Procedures:

10.2.1. FEB Proceedings. FEBs review pending dismissals of rated students from the experimental test pilot or experimental test navigator course (except when waived) for lack of flying proficiency. The AFFTC convenes FEBs according to AFI 11-402, with the following restrictions:

10.2.1.1. Voting members must include at least three disinterested officers who hold a 11EX or 12EX AFSC.

10.2.1.2. At least one voting member must be a TPS staff member.

10.2.1.3. The board can include additional voting members with 11EX or 12EX AFSCs.

10.2.2. Faculty Boards . The Faculty Board considers elimination of students from the experimental test pilot, experimental test navigator, or experimental flight test engineer course for failure to meet academic standards. TPS conducts faculty board proceedings according to AFI 36-2201, with additional requirements as indicated in the following paragraphs.

10.2.2.1. Faculty Board Membership. All members of the Faculty Board must be senior in rank to the student whose case is before it. Board membership must include:

10.2.2.1.1. At least three disinterested officers (with a 11EX or 12EX AFSC) in an active aviation service code.

10.2.2.1.2. At least one TPS staff member.

10.2.2.1.3. Optionally, additional TPS graduate members.

10.2.2.2. Faculty Board Proceedings. A student has the right to military legal counsel or civilian counsel obtained at the student's own expense.

10.2.2.2.1. A court reporter records proceedings verbatim, or in enough detail to use the resulting notes as the basis of a report.

10.2.2.2.2. The TPS Commandant adds comments and recommendations, then sends the proceedings to the AFFTC for review and approval.

10.2.2.2.3. After the AFFTC staff judge advocate performs a legal review of the proceedings, the AFFTC reviewing and approving authority approves or disapproves the findings and directs the action to take. If the AFFTC approving authority directs reinstatement, the report needs no further processing. If the AFFTC approving authority directs dismissal of the student, the report goes to HQ AFMC/DP for US Air Force students (both military and civilian) and to SAF/AQQC for non-US Air Force students (both military and civilian). Board proceedings are processed according to AFCAT 36-2223. An information copy of the transmittal letter is sent to HQ AFMC/DO.

10.2.3. Board Proceedings:

10.2.3.1. When a student requests voluntary elimination from TPS, the proceedings of related FEBs or faculty boards are not subject to the review requirements of AFI 51-602, *Boards of Officers*.

10.2.3.2. When Board proceedings form the basis of further administrative action, or inquire into the conduct, efficiency, fitness, or financial liability of the student as a member of the Air Force, such proceedings must meet all requirements of AFI 51-602.

10.2.3.3. Disposition of documents from Board proceedings are according to AFMAN 37-139.

JOHN T. MANCLARK
Director of Test and Evaluation

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

Public Law 103-160 §220, *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994*

The Privacy Act of 1974

DoDD 5400.7-R AFSUP1, Air Force Freedom of Information Act Program

AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges*

AFI 33-328, *Administrative Orders (PA)*

AFI 33-360V2, Forms Management Program

AFI 36-2107, *Active Duty Service Commitments and Specified Period of Time Contracts* AFI 36-2201, *Developing, Managing, and Conducting Training*

AFI 37-138, *Records Disposition--Procedures and Responsibilities*

AFMAN 37-139, *Records Disposition Schedule
and Processing Forms*

AFI 51-602, *Boards of Officers*

AFPD 99-1, *Test and Evaluation Process*

AFI 99-101, *Developmental Test and Evaluation*

AFI 99-102, *Operational Test and Evaluation*

AFI 99-105, *Live Fire Test and Evaluation*

AFI 99-106, *Joint Test and Evaluation*

AFI 99-109, *Test Resource Planning*

AFCAT 36-2223, *USAF Formal Schools*

DLIELC Instruction 1025.7, *Planning and Programming Security Assistance English Language Training*

DLIELC Instruction 1025.15, *English Comprehension Level (ECL) Test Guidelines*

The user of this instruction is responsible for verifying the currency of the cited documents.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AAD—advanced academic degree

ADSC—Active Duty Service Commitment

AF—Air Force

AFB—Air Force Base

AFCAT—Air Force catalog

AFFTC—Air Force Flight Test Center

AFI—Air Force instruction

AFIT—Air Force Institute of Technology

AFMAN—Air Force manual

AFMC—Air Force Materiel Command

AFORMS—Air Force Operations Resource Management System

AFPAM—Air Force pamphlet

AFPC—Air Force Personnel Center

AFPD—Air Force policy directive

AFSC—Air Force Specialty Code

BS—Bachelor of Science

CIP—Commander's Involvement Program

CPO—civilian personnel office

DDA—directed duty assignment

DDL—disclosure delegation letter

DLAB—Defense Language Aptitude Board

DLIELC—Defense Language Institute English Language Center

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDI—Department of Defense instruction

DOS—date of separation

e.g.—*exempli gratia*, meaning “for example”

EAD—extended active duty

ECL—English Comprehension Level

EPNER—French Test Pilot School

FEB—Flying Evaluation Board

FMS—Foreign Military Sales

FY—fiscal year

GPA—grade point average

HOSM—Host Operations System Management

HQ—headquarters

HQ USAF—Headquarters United States Air Force

IMET—International Military Education Training

MAJCOM —major command

MS—Master of Science

NAS—Naval Air Station

NATO—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

OPI—Oral Proficiency Interview

OPR—office of primary responsibility

POC—point of contact

SIE—self-initiated elimination

SUNT—Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training

SUPT—Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training

TAFCS—Total Active Federal Commissioned Service

TDY—temporary duty

TPS—Test Pilot School

USAF—United States Air Force

USN—United States Navy

USNTPS—United States Navy Test Pilot School

Terms

Defense Acquisition Deskbook—An automated repository of information consisting of an electronic Desk Reference Set, a Tool Catalog, and a Forum for the exchange of information. The Reference Set organizes information into two main categories: mandatory guidance; and discretionary information.

Test and Evaluation—The act of generating empirical data during the research, development or sustainment of systems, and the creation of information through analysis that is useful to technical personnel and decision makers for reducing design and acquisition risks. The process by which systems are measured against requirements and specifications, and the results analyzed so as to gauge progress and provide feedback.

NOTE:

Joint Publication 1-02, *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*, and AFM 11-1, *Air Force Glossary of Standardized Terms*, contain standardized terms and definitions for DoD and Air Force use.

Attachment 2

FORMAT FOR RESUME OF FLYING EXPERIENCE

NAME: _____		AS OF: _____	
Mission Category	Type	Date of Initial Aircraft Commander	Hours flown as Aircraft Commander
	(Total)	Qualification in This Type Aircraft (N/A for Navigators)	(N/A for Navigators)
Fighter:	A-10 F-15 F-16, etc.		
Trainer/ Utility:	T-33 C-12 C-21, etc. (Do not include SUPT/SUNT student time.)		
Bomber/ Tanker/ Airlift:	B-52 B-1 B-2 KC-135 C-130, etc.		
Helicopter:	UH-1 H-53, etc.		

Total Flying Time:

NOTE: Applicants from allied nations should enter their military flying experience by type aircraft in the appropriate category above. Flying time logged while piloting nonmilitary aircraft may be added here as a remark, format optional. Civilian ratings held may also be listed.

**Active Duty Service Commitment
STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT**

(TEST PILOT SCHOOL)

I have been counseled on the active duty service commitment (ADSC) associated with selection to test pilot school (TPS), and I have reviewed AFI 36-2107, AFI 36-2107, *Active Duty Service Commitments and Specified Period of Time Contracts*.

I fully understand that I will receive the appropriate TPS commitment upon graduation from test pilot school. If the ADSC changes, I will serve the ADSC in effect at the time I graduate. I agree to serve the appropriate ADSC per AFI 36-2107 if I am eliminated or withdrawn from TPS. I understand that when I am assigned my TPS ADSC (whether by graduation from TPS, because I was eliminated, or withdrew from training), my date of separation (DOS) will be adjusted to match my TPS ADSC if my DOS is less than the applicable ADSC.

(signature and date)

Printed or typed; first name, middle initial (MI), last name, SSN